

REMARKS

In the Office Action, the election of claims 7-26 and 50-61 was confirmed, and all elected claims were rejected. By the present response, claims 7, 17, 24, 50 and 55 have been amended and claims 1-6, 27-49 and 62-67 have been canceled. Upon entry of the amendment, claims 7-26 and 50-61 will be pending in the present patent application. Reconsideration and allowance of all pending claims are requested.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 101

The Office Action summarizes claims 7-26 and 50-61 as rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as non-statutory. The Examiner stated "the method and means claims as presented do not claim a technological basis in the body of the claims". Applicants respectfully submit that claims 7, 17, 24, 50 and 55 have been amended to claim a technological basis. The preamble of claims 7, 17 and 24 now recite computer implemented methods and the preamble of claim 50 now recites a computer implemented user community administration tool. The preamble of claim 55 has been amended to recite "[a] computer-readable medium storing computer instructions which when executed in a computer system performs a process comprising the steps of". Applicants believe that claim 55 now clearly states that the steps in the body of the claims are performed by the computer system and therefore qualifies as statutory matter under 35 U.S.C. § 101.

In view of the amendments, Applicants believe that independent claims 7, 17, 24, 50 and 55 recite subject matter that conforms to 35 U.S.C. § 101. These claims, and the claims depending therefrom are therefore believed to be clearly in condition for allowance. Because the Examiner has not rejected the claims over prior art, Applicants assume that the claims are allowable in view of the prior art. The withdrawn claims have been canceled to expedite prosecution of the present application.

Conclusion

In view of the remarks and amendments set forth above, Applicants respectfully request allowance of the pending claims. If the Examiner believes that a telephonic interview will help speed this application toward issuance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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